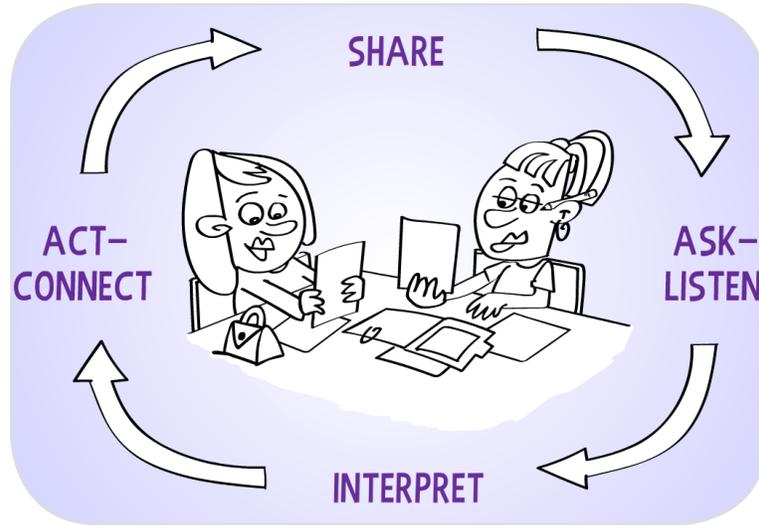


Partnering with Families in Assessment: *Interpreting Assessment with Families*

USING THE CIRCLE OF COMMUNICATION TO INTERPRET ASSESSMENT WITH FAMILIES



SHARE specific observations:

- Emphasize the positive aspects of children’s work, behavior, and developmental growth.
- Be clear and concise. Share your observations using two or three main points.
- Use portfolios to illustrate children’s learning and development. Show how specific examples in portfolios correspond to developmental indicators.

ASK for and LISTEN to families’ perspectives:

- Ask what additional information families have to share.
- Listen actively to families’ responses, questions, concerns, and hopes.

INTERPRET the information together, taking families’ explanations and perspectives into consideration:

- Listen carefully for alternative or expanded explanations of information.
- Ask clarifying questions or invite family members to expand on their comments.

ACT and CONNECT with families to set learning goals for children and plan ways to collaborate to reach those goals:

- Engage families as co-decision-makers.
- Discuss everyday activities that parents can do with their children.
- Use families’ input in planning classroom activities.